

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 05834 291701Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 OMB-01 SAB-01 ACDA-07 /092 W

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R 291541Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2573

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 5834

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF

SUBJECT: FATAH REPRESENTATIVE HOLDS DISCUSSIONS IN CAIRO

REF: CAIRO 5787

1. LOCAL DAILIES REPORT APRIL 29 THAT HANI AL-HASAN, PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR OF FATAH, CURRENTLY VISITING CAIRO FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPTIAN LEADERS, AS PLO CHAIRMAN ARAFAT'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. ARTICLES STATE THAT AL-HASAN, ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY LOCAL FATAH REPRESENTATIVE RIBHI AWADH, MET FOR THREE HOURS PREVIOUS DAY WITH DEPPRIMIN/FONMIN FAHMY, FOLLOWED BY SHORTER MEETINGS WITH PRIMIN SALIM AND MININFO OTEIFY. AHRAH COMMENTS THAT AL-HASAN VISIT TO CAIRO PART OF SERIES OF HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS BETWEEN ARAFAT AND EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA, ALGERIA, TUNISIA, AND MOROCCO (NO DETAILS PROVIDED
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 05834 291701Z

RE OTHER DELEGATIONS). REPORTS ON SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSIONS

SKIMPY, BUT AHRAM OPINES THAT FAHMY AND AL-HASAN DISCUSSED, DURING THEIR LONG SESSION, WAYS TO EFFECT EGYPTIAN-PALESTINIAN RAPPROACHMENT.

2. COMMENT: FACT THAT FATAH OFFICIAL AL-HASAN ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY AWADH, WITH NO LOCAL PLO REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT, GIVES IMPRESSION OF FATAH-GOE DIALOGUES, EXCLUDING WIDER PLO INVOLVEMENT. MEMBER OF FAHMY'S STAFF HAS CONFIRMED TO US THAT, IN VIEW OF GOE UNHAPPINESS WITH ARAFAT AND FATAH SINCE RECENT ARAFAT-ASAD ACCORDS IN DAMASCUS, VISIT OF RELATIVELY SENIOR AL-HASAN (WHO RELATED BY MARRIAGE TO RASD CHIEF 'ALI SALAMA AND CLOSE TO ARAFAT) WAS INTENDED BY ARAFAT TO MOLLIFY EGYPTIANS AND TO EXPLAIN ARAFAT'S POSITION VIS-A-VIS SYRIANS IN CURRENT IMBROGLIO OVER PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN LEBANON. FAHMY INFORMED AMBASSADOR THAT GOE INTENDED TO GIVE AL-HASAN "A COOL RECEPTION" IN WAKE OF DAMASCUS AGREEMENTS AND NO INDICATION APPEARS IN LOCAL PRESS AS TO WHETHER FOMIN RELENDED DURING HIS THREE-HOUR DISCUSSIONS. FAHMY'S AID TELLS US AL-HASAN MADE USUAL LAMENT ABOUT SYRIAN INTERFERENCE IN PLO AFFAIRS AND ASKED FOR EGYPTIAN HELP IN COMBATTING SA'IQA MANEUVERINGS AGAINST FATAH. EILTS

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